

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended): A method for calculating a copyright fee of digital contents comprising:

a step of distributing digital contents from a ~~center~~ shop side distribution apparatus of a ~~center~~ to a terminal apparatus of a shop via a ~~shop side distribution apparatus~~, wherein a plurality of ~~shops are connected to the center~~, and a plurality of terminal apparatuses are connected to the each shop;

a step of allowing digital contents capable of being accessed at a limited place to be viewed and/or listened to during a limited time period, wherein the limited time period includes time elapsed between entering and exiting the limited place;

a step of collecting an audiovisual fee according to the length of said limited time period, by the ~~shop side distribution~~ terminal apparatus;

a step of collecting audiovisual times for each of the digital contents viewed and/or listened to ~~at the terminal apparatus~~, by the ~~shop side distribution~~ terminal apparatus, by totaling audiovisual records of digital contents of respective users for a plurality of users and for each of the digital contents;

a step of transmitting ~~the audiovisual fee and~~ the audiovisual times to the ~~center~~ shop side distribution apparatus by the ~~shop side distribution~~ terminal apparatus;

~~a step of calculating a total amount of the transmitted audiovisual fee for all of a plurality of shops, by the center;~~

a step of calculating a total amount of the transmitted audiovisual times of the digital contents for ~~all shops~~ the terminal apparatus, by the ~~center~~ shop side distribution apparatus; and

a step of calculating a copyright fee for each of the digital contents by the ~~center~~ shop side distribution apparatus in accordance with the calculated total amount of the audiovisual fee and the audiovisual times.

2. (previously presented): A method for calculating a copyright fee of digital contents according to claim 1, further comprising a step of making the terminal apparatus recognize the contents of a portable recording medium storing an audiovisual period of viewing and/or listening to digital contents at the terminal apparatus.

3. (previously presented): A method for calculating a copyright fee of digital contents according to claim 1, further comprising a step of recording personal operation history information and personal preference information managed in the terminal apparatus in a portable recording medium.

4. (previously presented): A method for calculating a copyright fee of digital contents according to claim 2, further comprising a step of recording personal operation history information and personal preference information managed in the terminal apparatus in the portable recording medium.

5. (previously presented): A method for calculating a copyright fee of digital contents according to claim 1, further comprising a step of allowing a trial read of digital contents at the terminal apparatus capable of viewing and/or listening to the digital contents.

6. (previously presented): A method for calculating a copyright fee of digital contents according to claim 2, further comprising a step of allowing a trial read of digital contents at the terminal apparatus capable of viewing and/or listening to the digital contents.

7. (previously presented): A method for calculating a copyright fee of digital contents according to claim 3, further comprising a step of allowing a trial read of digital contents at the terminal apparatus capable of viewing and/or listening to the digital contents.

8. (previously presented): A method for calculating a copyright fee of digital contents according to claim 4, further comprising a step of allowing a trial read of digital contents at the terminal apparatus capable of viewing and/or listening to the digital contents.

9. (previously presented): A method for calculating a copyright fee of digital contents according to claim 1, further comprising a step of prolonging an audiovisual

time of digital contents if an electronic advertisement is viewed and/or listened to at the terminal apparatus capable of viewing and/or listening to the digital contents.

10. (currently amended): A method for calculating ~~method~~ a copyright fee of digital contents according to claim 2, further comprising a step of prolonging an audiovisual time of digital contents if an electronic advertisement is viewed and/or listened to at the terminal apparatus capable of viewing and/or listening to the digital contents.

11. (previously presented): A method for calculating a copyright fee of digital contents according to claim 3, further comprising a step of prolonging an audiovisual time of digital contents if an electronic advertisement is viewed and/or listened to at the terminal apparatus capable of viewing and/or listening to the digital contents.

12. (previously presented): A method for calculating a copyright fee of digital contents according to claim 4, further comprising a step of prolonging an audiovisual time of digital contents if an electronic advertisement is viewed and/or listened to at the terminal apparatus capable of viewing and/or listening to the digital contents.

13. (previously presented): A method for calculating a copyright fee of digital contents according to claim 5, further comprising a step of prolonging an audiovisual time of digital contents if an electronic advertisement is viewed and/or listened to at the terminal apparatus capable of viewing and/or listening to the digital contents.

14. (previously presented): A method for calculating a copyright fee of digital contents according to claim 6, further comprising a step of prolonging an audiovisual time of digital contents if an electronic advertisement is viewed and/or listened to at the terminal apparatus capable of viewing and/or listening to the digital contents.

15. (previously presented): A method for calculating a copyright fee of digital contents according to claim 7, further comprising a step of prolonging an audiovisual time of digital contents if an electronic advertisement is viewed and/or listened to at the terminal apparatus capable of viewing and/or listening to the digital contents.

16. (previously presented): A method for calculating a copyright fee of digital contents according to claim 8, further comprising a step of prolonging an audiovisual time of digital contents if an electronic advertisement is viewed and/or listened to at the terminal apparatus capable of viewing and/or listening to the digital contents.

17. (previously presented): A method for calculating a copyright fee of digital contents according to claim 1, further comprising a step of printing a portion or all of digital contents, a step of checking whether the digital contents can be printed, a step of calculating a copyright fee of the printed digital contents, and a step of displaying the calculated result on a display.

18. (previously presented): A method for calculating a copyright fee of digital contents according to claim 2, further comprising a step of printing a portion or all of digital contents, a step of checking whether the digital contents can be printed, a

step of calculating a copyright fee of the printed digital contents, and a step of displaying the calculated result on a display.

19. (previously presented): A method for calculating a copyright fee of digital contents according to claim 3, further comprising a step of printing a portion or all of digital contents, a step of checking whether the digital contents can be printed, a step of calculating a copyright fee of the printed digital contents, and a step of displaying the calculated result on a display.

20. (previously presented): A method for calculating a copyright fee of digital contents according to claim 4, further comprising a step of printing a portion or all of digital contents, a step of checking whether the digital contents can be printed, a step of calculating a copyright fee of the printed digital contents, and a step of displaying the calculated result on a display.

21. (previously presented): A method for calculating a copyright fee of digital contents according to claim 5, further comprising a step of printing a portion or all of digital contents, a step of checking whether the digital contents can be printed, a step of calculating a copyright fee of the printed digital contents, and a step of displaying the calculated result on a display.

22. (previously presented): A method for calculating a copyright fee of digital contents according to claim 6, further comprising a step of printing a portion or all of digital contents, a step of checking whether the digital contents can be printed, a

step of calculating a copyright fee of the printed digital contents, and a step of displaying the calculated result on a display.

23. (previously presented): A method for calculating a copyright fee of digital contents according to claim 7, further comprising a step of printing a portion or all of digital contents, a step of checking whether the digital contents can be printed, a step of calculating a copyright fee of the printed digital contents, and a step of displaying the calculated result on a display.

24. (previously presented): A method for calculating a copyright fee of digital contents according to claim 8, further comprising a step of printing a portion or all of digital contents, a step of checking whether the digital contents can be printed, a step of calculating a copyright fee of the printed digital contents, and a step of displaying the calculated result on a display.

25. (previously presented): A method for calculating a copyright fee of digital contents according to claim 9, further comprising a step of printing a portion or all of digital contents, a step of checking whether the digital contents can be printed, a step of calculating a copyright fee of the printed digital contents, and a step of displaying the calculated result on a display.

26. (previously presented): A method for calculating a copyright fee of digital contents according to claim 10, further comprising a step of printing a portion or all of digital contents, a step of checking whether the digital contents can be printed, a

step of calculating a copyright fee of the printed digital contents, and a step of displaying the calculated result on a display.

27. (previously presented): A method for calculating a copyright fee of digital contents according to claim 11, further comprising a step of printing a portion or all of digital contents, a step of checking whether the digital contents can be printed, a step of calculating a copyright fee of the printed digital contents, and a step of displaying the calculated result on a display.

28. (previously presented): A method for calculating a copyright fee of digital contents according to claim 12, further comprising a step of printing a portion or all of digital contents, a step of checking whether the digital contents can be printed, a step of calculating a copyright fee of the printed digital contents, and a step of displaying the calculated result on a display.

29. (previously presented): A method for calculating a copyright fee of digital contents according to claim 13, further comprising a step of printing a portion or all of digital contents, a step of checking whether the digital contents can be printed, a step of calculating a copyright fee of the printed digital contents, and a step of displaying the calculated result on a display.

30. (previously presented): A method for calculating a copyright fee of digital contents according to claim 14, further comprising a step of printing a portion or all of digital contents, a step of checking whether the digital contents can be printed, a

step of calculating a copyright fee of the printed digital contents, and a step of displaying the calculated result on a display.

31. (previously presented): A method for calculating a copyright fee of digital contents according to claim 15, further comprising a step of printing a portion or all of digital contents, a step of checking whether the digital contents can be printed, a step of calculating a copyright fee of the printed digital contents, and a step of displaying the calculated result on a display.

32. (previously presented): A method for calculating a copyright fee of digital contents according to claim 16, further comprising a step of printing a portion or all of digital contents, a step of checking whether the digital contents can be printed, a step of calculating a copyright fee of the printed digital contents, and a step of displaying the calculated result on a display.

33. (currently amended): A method for calculating a copyright fee of digital contents comprising:

outputting the digital contents capable of being accessed at a limited place during a limited time period, wherein the limited time period includes time elapsed between entering and exiting the limited place;

collecting an audiovisual fee according to the length of said limited time period by a ~~shop-side distribution~~ terminal apparatus;

~~calculating a total amount of~~ collecting audiovisual times for each of the digital contents viewed and/or listened to by the ~~shop-side distribution~~ terminal apparatus;

~~transmitting the audiovisual fee and the audiovisual times to a center,~~ shop side distribution apparatus by the ~~shop side distribution terminal~~ apparatus;

~~calculating a total amount of the transmitted audiovisual fee for all of a plurality of shops, by the center;~~

calculating a total amount of the transmitted audiovisual times of the digital contents for ~~all shops~~ the terminal apparatus, by the ~~center~~ shop side distribution apparatus; and

calculating a copyright fee for each of the digital contents by ~~a center~~ the shop side distribution apparatus in accordance with the calculated total amount of the audiovisual fee and the audiovisual times.

34. (currently amended): A method for calculating a copyright fee of digital contents comprising:

counting the number of pages displaying digital contents, by a ~~shop side distribution terminal~~ apparatus;

calculating an audiovisual fee in accordance with the number of displayed pages, by ~~the~~ a shop side distribution apparatus;

collecting audiovisual times for each of the digital contents viewed and/or listened to ~~at the terminal apparatus~~, by the ~~shop side distribution terminal~~ apparatus;

~~transmitting the audiovisual fee and the audiovisual times to a center,~~ the shop side distribution apparatus by the ~~shop side distribution terminal~~ apparatus;

~~calculating a total amount of the transmitted audiovisual fee for all of a plurality of shops, by the center;~~

calculating a total amount of the transmitted audiovisual times for each of the digital contents for ~~all shops, the terminal apparatus~~ by the ~~center shop side~~ distribution apparatus; and

calculating a copyright fee for each of the digital contents, by the ~~center shop~~ side apparatus, in accordance with the calculated audiovisual fee and total amount of audiovisual times.

35. (canceled).

36. (currently amended): A system for calculating a copyright fee of digital contents comprising:

means for distributing digital contents from a ~~center shop~~ side distribution apparatus of a ~~center~~ to a terminal apparatus of a shop ~~via a shop side distribution apparatus~~, wherein a plurality of ~~shops are connected to the center, and a plurality of~~ terminal apparatuses are connected to the ~~each~~ shop;

means for allowing digital contents capable of being accessed at a limited place to be viewed and/or listened to during a limited time period, wherein the limited time period includes time elapsed between entering and exiting the limited place;

means for collecting an audiovisual fee according to the length of said limited time period by the ~~shop side distribution~~ terminal apparatus;

means for collecting an audiovisual times for each of the digital contents viewed and/or listened to ~~at the terminal apparatus~~ by the ~~shop side distribution~~ terminal apparatus, by totaling audiovisual records of digital contents of respective users for a plurality of users and for each of the digital contents;

means for transmitting ~~the audiovisual fee and~~ the audiovisual times to the ~~center~~ shop side distribution apparatus by the ~~shop side distribution terminal~~ apparatus;

means for calculating a total amount of the transmitted audiovisual times of the digital contents for ~~all of a plurality of shops~~ the terminal apparatus, by the ~~center~~ shop side distribution apparatus; and

means for calculating a copyright fee for each of the digital contents by the ~~center~~ shop side distribution apparatus in accordance with the calculated total amount of the audiovisual fee and the audiovisual times.

37. (currently amended): A computer readable recording medium storing a program for calculating a copyright fee of digital contents, the program comprising the steps of:

distributing digital contents from a ~~center~~ shop side distribution apparatus ~~of a center~~ to a terminal apparatus ~~via a shop side distribution apparatus~~ of a shop, wherein a plurality of ~~shops are connected to the center, and a plurality of~~ terminal apparatuses are connected to the ~~each~~ shop;

allowing digital contents capable of being accessed at a limited place to be viewed and/or listened to during a limited time period, wherein the limited time period includes time elapsed between entering and exiting the limited place;

collecting an audiovisual fee according to the length of said limited time period by the ~~shop side distribution~~ terminal apparatus;

collecting an audiovisual times for each of the digital contents viewed and/or listened to ~~at the terminal apparatus~~ by the ~~shop side distribution~~ terminal apparatus;

transmitting ~~the audiovisual fee and the audiovisual times to the center~~ shop side distribution apparatus by the ~~shop side distribution terminal~~ apparatus;

~~calculating a total amount of the transmitted audiovisual fee for all shops, by the center;~~

calculating a total amount of the transmitted audiovisual times of the digital contents for ~~all of a plurality of shops~~ the terminal apparatus, by the center; and

calculating a copyright fee for each of the digital contents by the ~~center~~ shop side distribution apparatus in accordance with the calculated total amount of the audiovisual fee and the audiovisual times.

38. (previously presented): A method of calculating a copyright fee of digital contents according to claim 1, wherein said total amount of audiovisual times is a number of audiovisual times of identical digital contents.